

WEATHER

Generally fair tonight and Thursday; moderately cool; gentle westerly winds. Temperature past twenty-four hours: High, 71, at 4 p.m. yesterday; low, 54, at 3 a.m. today.

For full report see page 16.

CLOSING NEW YORK STOCKS PAGE 16.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 1915.—TWENTY PAGES.

"From Press to Home Within the Hour"

Last Week's Sworn Net Circulation—Daily Average, 72,179; Sunday, 53,474.

ONE CENT.

JAPAN'S WARSHIPS REACH CHINA COAST

Cruiser and Four Destroyers 150 Miles East of Peking.

ULTIMATUM DECIDED UPON BY NIPPONESE

Steps Taken to Defend Chinese Capital—Suspicion Thrown on Yuan Shi Kai's Possible Course.

PEKING, May 3.—A Japanese cruiser and four torpedo boat destroyers have arrived at Chin-Wang-Tao, on the Gulf of Pao-Tung, about 150 miles east of Peking, evidently for the purpose of removing from China the members of the Japanese legation.

Consular representatives from all parts of the country announce the departure of Japanese, or their concentration at the Japanese consulates.

There is a substantial opinion in Peking that Japan may take action in regard to the non-acceptance of her demands by China without waiting upon the issuance of an ultimatum. That an ultimatum granting forty-eight hours has been decided upon by Tokyo is the news conveyed here from other points.

Chinese Capital Quiet.

The Chinese capital is remarkably quiet in the face of what the Peking Gazette calls "the gravest peril in China's modern history."

Most of the people of the city are going about their business as usual, apparently with no knowledge of the problem which confronts their country.

They might easily be aroused, but the government has taken every precaution to prevent anti-Japanese demonstrations.

Only the educated classes are kept informed of the progress of negotiations with Japan. Among them, feeling is intense, but there have been no demonstrations, although reports have been received from southern cities that several men and one woman have committed suicide, declaring "they did not wish to live to see China subjected."

Cabinet Council Called.

After the news was received yesterday of Japan's proposed ultimatum, a cabinet council was held at the winter palace, the residence of President Yuan Shi Kai. The ministers were divided in opinion. The president asked questions, but did not express his own views.

Some officials express the belief that China will surrender, while others are of the opinion that she will offer all the resistance possible.

The decision will rest with Yuan Shi Kai.

Suspicion Is Aroused.

It is considered here that Yuan Shi Kai faces calamitous consequences in China if he yields to the Japanese. High members of his own government are said already to have voiced the opinion that he may accept the alleged offer from Japan of military support and protection for himself against foreign nations and his own people in return for conceding to the Japanese demands. The decision will rest with Yuan Shi Kai.

Plan Peking's Defense.

Military preparations are being made for the defense of Peking. According to Chinese officials, whose statements have been corroborated in other circles, the government is making no preparation elsewhere than at the capital for defense, considering that the Chinese will be unable to oppose the Japanese should they make an attack.

It is asserted in high quarters that one hundred thousand troops have been concentrated in the environs of Peking, but with sufficient ammunition for only a brief resistance.

Special police and military precautions have been taken throughout the city, especially around the winter palace, where President Yuan Shi Kai resides.

Situation Awkward.

The situation is considered awkward for some of the foreign legations, especially those whose countries sympathize with the Chinese, but none of them could oppose the entry of the Japanese into Peking.

Telegrams received here from Mukden say that the Japanese bank and post office there have suspended business, that the Japanese reservists have been called to the colors and that the Chinese are concentrating in the railway zone.

Dr. Paul R. Reinsch, the United States minister here, expressed the opinion that the missionaries and other Americans in the interior are in no danger whatever. He says that the Chinese government will preserve order in the region over which the Chinese hold sway.

Japanese Get Instructions.

TOKIO, May 3.—All Japan has focused attention on the Chinese situation, which is believed to be at the crisis of its possibilities. It is reported that the foreign office has sent telegrams to all consuls in China instructing them to prepare their nationals for possible departure. Japanese at Mukden have been asked to hold themselves in readiness to withdraw to places near the South Manchurian railroad.

Gen. Count Terauchi, Governor General of Korea, has held a conference with the general staff of the army. The decisions of the cabinet and elder statesmen are expected to be made by press says forty-eight hours will be the limit of the proposed ultimatum. Newspapers interpret the move as indicating the insistence of China that Japan offer to restore Kiaochow be reduced to writing.

U. S. Far East Dispatches Mention No Ultimatum; Officials Here Optimistic

Official dispatches received today from the American embassy at Peking and the American legation at Tokyo make no mention of an ultimatum from Japan to China, beyond repeating references to such a course in the Japanese and Chinese newspapers. The official disposition here was to view the far eastern situation calmly, awaiting the next move of the principals.

In well informed quarters the sentiment of the Japanese press for an ultimatum was interpreted as being calculated to influence China to make overtures and concessions before Japan decides upon the course to take in the far eastern situation calmly, awaiting the next move of the principals.

Some observers thought the sending of an ultimatum or any other commu-

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Prosecution Calls First of New Witnesses in Carman Trial to the Stand.

Admission of Evidence Fought by Defense, Who Contend Shooting Occurred After Nightfall.

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REJECTS PRIZE CASE PRIZE COURT OFFER

U. S. Note to Germany Demands Settlement of Loss Through Diplomacy.

DECLARES SHIP SINKING VIOLATION OF TREATY

Suggests Further Negotiations Be Transferred to Kaiser's Embassy in Washington.

The text of the American note to Germany declining the suggestion that reparations for the sinking of the American sailing ship William P. Frye by the converted cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich be made through a German prize court, and reiterating the representations for indemnity, was made public today by the State Department.

It already has been presented to the Berlin foreign office in the form of a communication from Ambassador Gerard. It follows:

"In reply to your excellency's note of the 25th instant, which the government of the United States understands admits the liability of the Imperial German government for the damages resulting from the sinking of the American sailing vessel William P. Frye by the German auxiliary cruiser, Prinz Eitel Friedrich January 28 last, I have the honor to say, by direction of my government, that, while the promptness with which the Imperial German government has admitted its liability is highly appreciated, my government feels that it would be inappropriate in the circumstances of this case and would involve unnecessary delay to adopt the suggestion in your note that the legality of the capture and destruction, the standing of the claimants and the amount of indemnity should be submitted to a prize court.

Violation of Obligations.

"Unquestionably the destruction of this vessel was a violation of the obligations imposed upon the Imperial German government under existing treaty stipulations between the United States and Prussia, and the United States government by virtue of its treaty rights has presented to the Imperial German government a claim for indemnity on account of the resulting damages suffered by American citizens, and the amount of indemnity.

The government of the United States fully understands that, as stated in the German note, the Imperial German government is not prepared to discuss the question of liability already been settled in that way. The status of the claimants arising from the destruction of the cargo as well as from the destruction of the vessel, but it will be captivated by the vessel and the amount of the damages sustained in consequence of her destruction.

The government of the United States recognizes that the German government will wish to be satisfied as to the American ownership of the vessel and the amount of the damages sustained in consequence of her destruction.

Adrianople itself has been almost completely denuded of troops, while all heavy artillery has been removed from the city, says a dispatch to the Times from Sofia.

Recalled From Dardanelles.

A large part of the troops which had been sent to the Gallipoli peninsula now have been recalled in haste and sent to Kirk-Kiliseh, thirty-two miles northeast of Adrianople, and to Midia, on the Black sea.

The Turkish government has reconsidered its decision to suspend railway service to Bulgaria, in the fear that

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INSIST GULFIGHT GOT NOWHAWING

Secretary Bryan Gets Message of Chief Officer and U. S. Consular Agent.

HULL OF LOST VESSEL WILL BE EXAMINED

American Naval Officers to Participate in Investigation—Mr. Page Orders Deposition Taking.

The American steamer Gulfight was flying a large American ensign and was "torpedoed without warning" by a submarine whose nationality has not yet been established, according to a cable statement received by Secretary Bryan today, signed by Chief Officer Smith and Consular Agent Banfield. Ambassador Page reported that Lieut. John H. Towers, one of the naval attaches of the American embassy at London, and Naval Constructor Lewis H. McBride were to make an investigation of the hull of the Gulfight, now in charge of the British submarine. He also ordered the American consul at Plymouth to take depositions from the officers and crew of the Gulfight.

The statement received by the State Department from Chief Officer Smith was dated originally to the owners of the vessel, the Gulf Refining Company, who telegraphed it here today.

Makes Statement Public.

Although there is no record here of Consular Agent Banfield's post, it is presumed he was sent by Consul Stephens from Plymouth or was stationed at the port where the Gulfight was brought. The statement of the first officer of the Gulfight and Consul Banfield, as made public by Secretary Bryan, follows: